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ELECTRO™ HATES

SPIDER-MAN

LIGHT THE NIGHT
PART ONE OF THREE

DIRECT EDITION

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...ANOTHER DEATH.
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
LIGHT THE NIGHT!
PART ONE
STARRING SPIDER-MAN
J.M. DeMATTEIS, WRITER
KLAUS JANSON, ARTIST
KEVIN TINSLEY, COLORIST
JOE ROSEN, LETTERER
DANNY FINGEROTH, EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO, CHIEF

THIS IS THE BEST PART. WHEN I OPEN MY EYES.

I LIKE T'DO IT REAL QUICK... REALLY SHOCK 'EM.

THERE'S ALWAYS A FEW SCREAMS FROM THE LADIES...SOME GASPS...

...AND THEN THEY START TO CHEER.

LIKE CRAZY.

FOR ME.

C'MON, FOLKS-- LET'S HEAR IT FOR THAT DEATH-DEFYING LIVING DYNAMO--

--THE AMAZING *ELECTRO*-- THE *ELECTRICAL MAN!*

YEAH, IT'S CORNY. SO WHAT? FOR A COUPLE O' MINUTES I BELIEVE IT. I'M A BIG MAN. THE ***BIGGEST*** MAN.

ELECTRO

THE AMA... ELECTRI... MAN!

I'M ON TOP O' THE WORLD.

SEE YA LATER, STEUBEN, I'M GONNA GET SOME GRUB.

NOT *YET* YOU'RE NOT!

HANG ON, FOLKS-- DON'T GO AWAY! ELECTRO'S GOT ONE MORE TRICK THAT YOU'RE JUST GONNA ***LOVE!***

BUT YOU'VE GOTTA PROMISE *NOT* T'TELL THE *ELECTRIC COMPANY! HARAWW-HARAWW-HARAWW!*

I *TOLD* YOU I'M NOT *DOIN'* THAT ANY MORE! IT'S... *HUMILIATING!*

AS HUMILIATING AS BEING OUT OF ***WORK***?

C'MON, JACK! *PLEASE--?!*

YOU'LL ***DO*** IT--

--AND YOU'LL *LIKE* IT!

BUUMMMPH!

YES, SIR-***REE***, FOLKS-- WE NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ***BLACKOUTS*** AT THE "STEUBEN CARNIVAL"--

--'CAUSE WE GOT OURSELVES A LIVING, BREATHING *FLASHLIGHT* RIGHT *HERE!*

WE NEED A LITTLE ILLUMINATION--ALL'S WE GOTTA DO IS STICK BULBS IN HIS EARS, UP HIS NOSE--*ANYPLACE* WE CAN SCREW 'EM *IN!*

HARAWW-HARAWW-HARAWW!!

WHEN STEUBEN LAUGHS, HE SOUNDS LIKE A MULE. BUT *I'M* THE ONE WHO FEELS LIKE A JACKASS. 'CAUSE I JUST STAND THERE, TAKING IT.

STEUBEN HEES AND HAWS...

...AND PRETTY SOON THEY'RE ALL DOING IT.

I'M NOT A HERO ANY MORE.

JUST A STUPID FALL-GUY.

A BIG, DUMB JOKE.

AND I DON'T LIKE IT!

POPP!!

ANOTHER DAY...

I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY ARE YOU *DOING* THIS?

WHEN WE MET IN THE HOTEL BAR--YOU SAID YOU SOLD *MUTUAL FUNDS!* YOU SAID YOU COULD HELP ME PLAN MY *FUTURE!*

LOOK--ONLY FUTURE I'M INTERESTED IN PLANNIN' IS *MINE!*

NOW WHERE'S THE REST OF IT?

I *SWEAR* TO YOU... THAT'S EVERYTHING I *HAVE!*

FORTY-TWO DOLLARS AND A *VISA* CARD?

I'M...AH... AFRAID THE CARD'S REACHED ITS *LIMIT.*

C'MON--THE "TOP OF NEW YORK'S" THE CLASSIEST HOTEL IN TOWN! YOU GOTTA BE *LOADED* T'STAY HERE!

WELL...AH...THAT'S WHAT I *WANTED* PEOPLE TO THINK. I'M A MEDICAL SUPPLIES SALESMAN. FROM *RACINE*, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!

I THOUGHT IF I PROJECTED THE RIGHT *IMAGE*--MY CUSTOMERS WOULD TAKE ME A LITTLE MORE *SERIOUSLY.*

I DON'T *BE-LIEVE* THIS!!

IF YOU WANT ...I COULD WRITE YOU A *CHECK.*

CHECK?! FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD-- HOW STUPID DO YOU THINK I *AM?*

NOW *THAT'S* A STRAIGHT LINE IF I EVER HEARD ONE!

OH, NO.

...ANOTHER TWO-BIT HOOD.

OH... YES!

Y'KNOW, I WAS JUST SWINGING BY-- AND I SAW THIS LITTLE FELONY HAPPENING.

I TRIED TO IGNORE IT... AFTER ALL, I'M A BUSY LITTLE SPIDER-MAN, I'VE GOT PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE, SUPER-VILLAINS TO PUMMEL...

BUT I FIGURED, HEY--IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT! SOME POOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES SALESMAN FROM WISCONSIN MIGHT NEED MY HELP--

-- AND WHADDAYA KNOW... I WAS RIGHT!

HERE! HERE'S THE MONEY BACK! JUST LEAVE ME ALONE FOR ONCE!

AND THE GUN?

I DON'T HAVE A GUN!

YOU DON'T?!

WELL, GOOD... GOOD. THAT JUST MAKES MY JOB A LITTLE BIT--

KRASH!

-- EASIER...?

WHOA!

BIG PROBLEM!

SKREE

I'VE GOTTA GET DOWN THERE...

KRUNK!

REEEEEE

EEE

NOW IF I CAN JUST...

...FAST!

EEEEEEEEEE

...STOP THIS THING...

...BEFORE IT PLOWS INTO...

...THE CROWD!

RRRRRRRKKKK

C'MON, BUDDY-- CAR'S STARTING TO BURN!

UP--

--AND OUT!

SPIDER-MAN ...THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I...I HAD TO SWERVE TO AVOID SOME KIDS... MORONS JUST CAME RUNNIN' OUT INTO THE STREET...AND I LOST CONTROL!

IF YOU HADN'T COME ALONG, I--

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.

NO! YOU SAVED MY LIFE!

"YOU SAVED US ALL!"

GUESS I DID AT THAT!

...IT MAKES ME FEEL TALLER THAN THE "TOP OF NEW YORK"!

SORRY I RAN OFF... BUT THE LITTLE GUY SEEMED LIKE MORE OF A DANGER TO HIMSELF THAN TO YOU--

--AND THAT SITUATION DOWN THERE WAS LIFE-OR-DEATH!

S'OKAY, SPIDER-MAN! YOU WEREN'T EVEN GONE A MINUTE!

REALLY? I MUST BE SLOWING DOWN!

YOUR "FRIEND" TAKE OFF?

LIKE A SHOT--SOON AS YOU LEFT!

SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A COMPLETE IDIOT FOR DOING WHAT I DO: PUTTING ON A SILLY COSTUME, GETTING PUNCHED AROUND BY PSYCHOS IN EVEN SILLIER COSTUMES...

...BUT WHEN I SEE THAT KIND OF GRATITUDE IN A MAN'S EYES... WHEN I REALIZE THE GOOD I CAN DO FOR THE AVERAGE JOE ON THE STREET...

YOU REPORT THIS TO THE POLICE--

--I'LL GO GRAB THE LITTLE GUY!

BUT HOW WILL YOU EVER FIND HIM?

HEY! I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR YEARS--

--AND I NEVER FORGET--

--A FACE!

HOME OF NEW YOR

WEIRD. I SCOURED THE WHOLE AREA AND COULDN'T FIND A TRACE OF HIM!

MUST'VE CRAWLED INTO A MOUSE-HOLE OR SOMETHING!

I'VE TAKEN DOWN ALMOST EVERY PETTY CROOK IN THE CITY AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER...

...AND THE JERKS KEEP COMING BACK FOR MORE! NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME!

...AND IF I DON'T GET MY WEBBED BUTT INTO THAT CONFERENCE ROOM RIGHT NOW...

WELL, THAT UGLY PUSS IS BRANDED IN MY MEMORY-- AND I'M BOUND TO RUN INTO HIM AGAIN SOONER OR LATER.

BUT I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THIS NOW. I'M LATE FOR A MEETING AT THE "DAILY BUGLE"...

...JOLLY JONAH'S GONNA BLOW WHAT LITTLE COOL HE'S GOT!

HI, J.J.-- SORRY I'M LATE, BUT--

SPARE ME THE EXCUSES, PARKER!

THIS ISN'T SOME COLLEGE CLASS YOU CAN COME WANDERING INTO ANY TIME YOU WANT!

UH... JONAH-- PETER'S ONLY TWELVE MINUTES LATE.

DON'T DEFEND HIM, ROBERTSON! HE DOESN'T DESERVE IT!

Y'KNOW, PARKER-- I'VE BEEN TALKING YOU UP LIKE CRAZY TO MISS KLEIN HERE... TOLD HER YOU'RE THE BEST PHOTOGRAPHER THE BUGLE'S GOT! THE CREAM OF THE CROP!

WELL, THANKS, BUT--

NOW HOW DO YOU THINK IT MAKES ME LOOK WHEN YOU COME STUMBLING IN HERE HOURS LATE--

BUT IT'S ONLY--

DON'T CONTRADICT ME! I'M THE BOSS-- YOU'RE THE EMPLOYEE!

ACTUALLY, I'M NOT AN EMPLOYEE... I'M A FREELANCER.

YOU'RE AN IRRESPONSIBLE LITTLE HIGH SCHOOL KID WHO I PULLED OFF THE STREETS IS WHAT YOU ARE!

JONAH-- I HAVEN'T BEEN IN HIGH SCHOOL SINCE--

DON'T CONTRADICT ME!!

ANOTHER DAY...

SET 'EM UP AGAIN, CHARLIE?

SURE, HERBIE, WHY NOT?

... ANOTHER MISERABLE FAILURE.

YOU'RE NOT LOOKIN' HAPPY TODAY, CHARLIE.

YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT HAPPINESS ISN'T ONE O' MY STRONG POINTS

HERBIE--ANSWER ME THIS: AM I A BAD GUY?

YOU'RE A PRINCE, CHARLIE.

OKAY, SO I'M A THIEF--BUT IT'S ALWAYS BEEN NICKEL AND DIME STUFF--

--AND I NEVER HURT ANYBODY WHEN I'M DOIN' IT!

"SO WHAT'S HE WANT FROM ME, HUH?"

"HE?"

"SPIDER-MAN!"

Y'KNOW, I'VE HAD A LOTTA BAD LUCK IN MY LIFE... NEVER COULD MAKE IT IN THE STRAIGHT WORLD... SO I DECIDED T'GIVE CRIME A SHOT.

EVEN THERE I WAS PRETTY MUCH OF A FAILURE. NONE OF THE BIG GUYS EVER WANTED ANYTHING T'DO WITH ME.

WHAT'S THIS GOT TO DO WITH SPIDER-MAN?

"HE KEEPS CATCHING ME!!

"FIRST TIME WAS JUST A COUPLE O' WEEKS AFTER HE FIRST APPEARED. DUMB LITTLE ROBBERY... AND HE CLIPPED US GOOD.

"FEW MONTHS LATER, I'M OUT ON PAROLE. HE CLIPS ME AGAIN."

SOUNDS HUMILIATING.

SURE.

YOU WANNA HEAR HUMILIATING?

SIX TIMES HE'S POPPED ME! SIX TIMES!

AND HE NEVER EVEN REMEMBERS ME! I'M JUST ANOTHER FACELESS CROOK TO HIM!

"IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD IF HE SAID, 'HEY, CHARLIE-BOY, HOW YA DOIN'?' BEFORE HE KONKED ME ON THE HEAD! BUT NO--EVERY TIME IT'S LIKE HE'S NEVER LAID EYES ON ME BEFORE!

"TAKE TODAY, FOR INSTANCE--NOT EVEN A GLIMMER O' RECOGNITION!"

I'LL TELL YA, HERBIE--IT MAKES A MAN FEEL SMALL.

MIGHTY

SM

SHNORRRR

A PRINCE.

STORM COMING UP, NASTY ONE, TOO. GOOD. NOTHING I LIKE MORE THAN CLOUDS AND THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

WHEN I WAS A KID AND A MONSTER LIKE THIS'D KICK IN, I'D RUN OUTSIDE AND DANCE AROUND IN THE RAIN. SOMETIMES I'D CLIMB UP ON THE ROOF AND WATCH THE LIGHTNING.

OF COURSE, SOON AS MOMMA FOUND OUT, SHE'D HAVE ME BACK IN THE HOUSE AND IN BED WITH A THERMOMETER IN MY MOUTH.

MOMMA WAS A GOOD WOMAN... BUT SHE WAS SURE OVER-PROTECTIVE, THOUGHT IF I GOT A LITTLE WET, I'D BE DEAD OF PNEUMONIA BY MORNING.

GUESS AFTER DAD LEFT, I WAS ALL SHE HAD... AND SHE DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE ME.

THOUGHT IF SHE KEPT HER LITTLE MAXWELL ALL PROTECTED AND COCOONED UP, NOTHING WOULD EVER HURT ME, OR TAKE ME AWAY FROM HER.

...AND THEN SHE SAYS, "HERBERT, IF YOU SO MUCH AS *LOOK* AT EMILY FILLMORE ONE MORE TIME -- I'M GETTING THE SHOTGUN."

UH... *EXCUSE* ME --

I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S SO WORRIED ABOUT. IF *I* WAS MARRIED TO HERB JACKSON, I'D BE PRAYING NIGHT AND *DAY* FOR HIM TO RUN OFF ON ME...

EXCUSE ME? I WONDER IF I COULD GET A BOTTLE OF--

JUST *WAIT* -- YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE *BEST* PART--

EXCUSE--

THERE'S *MORE*?

--ME?

SATURDAY NIGHT, PHYLLIS COMES HOME FROM WORK EARLY--AND THERE'S HERB AND BEVERLY SITTING ON THE COUCH ALL *COSY*, WATCHING ONE OF THOSE X-RATED *VIDEOS*--

NO!

YES!

I'M SHOCKED, ANNA... JUST *SHOCKED!*

UHM... THIS THE NEW *HAND CREAM* YOU WERE TELLING ME ABOUT?

STORY OF MY LIFE. OPEN MY MOUTH-- AND NO SOUND COMES OUT. LIKE I'M SOME KIND OF INVISIBLE MAN. MAX DILLON...

...THE WORLD'S BIGGEST NOBODY.

I'M NOT A NOBODY!!

EVEN WHEN I WAS LITTLE...ON THE RARE OCCASIONS WHEN MOMMA'D LET ME PLAY WITH OTHER KIDS...

...I'D BE ALL NERVOUS AND STUTTERING AND EXCITED. BUT THEY NEVER LIKED ME, THEY NEVER EVEN PICKED ON ME...THEY JUST...

I'M NOT--

...IGNORED ME.

--A NOBODY!!

KRA-KA-KA-K

I LOVED IT UP THERE ON THE POLES... JUST ME AND THOSE HUMMING WIRES. SO MUCH POWER IN THOSE WIRES. I USED TO WISH I COULD... TAP INTO IT.

THOUGHT MAYBE IT COULD CHANGE ME SOMEHOW. NO MORE STUTTER. NO MORE WOMEN LOOKING RIGHT THROUGH ME.

NO MORE STUPID, BORING MAX DILLON.

KRA-KOOM!

I'M NOT A NO-BODY!!

KRAA

I'M NOT MAX DILLON!!

AAAH

KOOOM!

I'M ELECTRO!

I'M ELECTRO!

I WAS BEING REBORN.

ONE IN A MILLION CRAZY FREAK ACCIDENT. ALL THAT POWER POURING THROUGH ME. THOUGHT I WAS DYING FOR SURE. BUT I WASN'T DYING.

ELECTRO WAS EVERY-THING MAX WASN'T.

I WALKED INTO A BANK IN THAT CRAZY COSTUME...

...EVERYBODY NOTICED.

THEY WROTE ABOUT ME IN THE MAGAZINES.

TALKED ABOUT ME ON THE NEWS.

THEY WERE SCARED OF ME. I WAS A BIG MAN.

KOOOM!

A

BIG

MAN

KOOOM!

A

BIG

MAN?

SO HOW COME I ALWAYS ENDED UP GETTING MY BUTT KICKED BY SPIDER-MAN?

HOW COME I ALWAYS ENDED UP IN JAIL... FEELING AS SMALL AS I EVER DID WHEN I WAS A KID?

NO WONDER I FINALLY GAVE IT ALL UP AND HITCHED A RIDE TO KAN SAS WITH STEUBEN'S TRAVELLING FREAK SHOW.

NO WONDER I STARTED TO FADE AWAY-- ALL OVER AGAIN.

NO WONDER I...

I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

I'M A BIG FAN OF YOURS, PETER. I'M *REALLY* LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU ON THIS.

DAILY BUGLE

YOU KNOW, "THE TOP OF NEW YORK" IS ONE OF THE OLDEST, MOST *PRESTIGIOUS* HOTELS IN THE CITY, AND THE OWNERS HAVE SPENT *MILLIONS* RESTORING IT TO ITS ORIGINAL, ART-DECO GLORY.

ONE OF THE REASONS WE'RE GIVING THE BUGLE AN *EXCLUSIVE* ON THE UNVEILING PARTY FOR OUR NEWLY-RENOVATED BALLROOM IS BECAUSE UNCLE JONAH *PROMISED* HIS BEST PHOTOGRAPHER.

SOMEONE WHO CAN USE HIS EYE TO MERGE THE MAGIC OF "THE TOP'S" *PAST* WITH THE WONDERS OF HER *FUTURE*.

MS. KLEIN--

SARAH.

SARAH. DID YOU...UM...DID YOU SAY...AH... *UNCLE* JONAH?

NOT A *BLOOD* UNCLE, PARKER. SARAH'S DAD AND I ROOMED TOGETHER IN COLLEGE. IRA KLEIN WAS MY *BEST FRIEND*--

--AND ONE OF THE GREATEST MEN I'VE EVER *KNOWN*, GOD REST HIS SOUL.

I'VE KNOWN SARAH HERE SINCE BEFORE SHE WAS *BORN!* AND LOOK AT HER NOW--HEAD OF HER OWN *PUBLIC RELATIONS* FIRM!

I WAS JUST SAYING HOW *IMPRESSED* I AM WITH PETER'S *WORK*. HE REALLY--

OF COURSE YOU'RE IMPRESSED! I *DISCOVERED* PARKER--TAUGHT 'IM EVERYTHING HE *KNOWS!* THIS SKINNY, BUG-EYED KID COMES WANDERING *IN* HERE A COUPLE O' YEARS AGO--

--*TOTALLY* NAIVE... COULDN'T EVEN WIPE HIS *NOSE* WITHOUT PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS...AND HE TELLS ME HE WANTS TO BE A *PHOTOGRAPHER!*

ACTUALLY, IT WAS MUCH MORE THAN--

NOW ANYONE ELSE WOULD'VE SHOWN 'IM THE *DOOR*--

--BUT NOT J. JONAH JAMESON!

HATE TO INTERRUPT, J.J.--BUT WE DO HAVE A NEWSPAPER TO PUT OUT...

NOT JUST ANY NEWSPAPER, ROBBIE! THE DAILY BUGLE!

AND YOU SHOULD COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY, PARKER--THAT I'VE ALLOWED YOU TO MAKE YOUR SMALL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR--

JONAH...?

OH RIGHT.

COME ON, SARAH -- I'LL GIVE YOU A TOUR OF THE SHOP.

YOU KNOW, PETER --IF THE HOTELS OWNERS ARE HAPPY WITH WHAT YOU DO AT THE CHARITY BALL-- THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE WE CAN EXPAND THIS THING--

--DO A BOOK OF PHOTOS ON "THE TOP" COULD BE EXTREMELY LUCRATIVE.

SARAH!

SIGH! BE RIGHT THERE, UNCLE JONAH.

COMING, PETER?

UH-UH.

I'VE. .UM... GOTTA...AH...DO A FEW THINGS, Y'KNOW?

NOW THAT WAS ELOQUENT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE WAY I WAS ACTING DURING THAT MEETING! I COULD HARDLY GET A WORD OUT... AND WHEN I DID, IT DIDN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE!

WHAT IS IT WITH JONAH? MOST OF THE TIME I CAN HANDLE HIM... LOOK THE OL' BUZZARD IN THE EYE AND TELL HIM TO GO TAKE A FLYING LEAP...BUT THEN--ON DAYS LIKE TODAY...

...HE DOES THIS--THING...TALKS TO ME IN A CERTAIN TONE, LOOKS AT ME A CERTAIN WAY...

...AND IT'S LIKE ALL THE YEARS HAVE JUST--ROLLED AWAY. HE'S THE BIG-SHOT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER WHO JUST HAS TO FLICK HIS CIGAR TO INTIMIDATE ME...

...AND I'M A NERDY INSECURE SIXTEEN YEAR OLD AGAIN.

YOU'D THINK THAT, AFTER ALL I'VE BEEN THROUGH IN MY LIFE, I'D'VE GOTTEN PAST THIS! I MEAN--THAT PETER PARKER DOESN'T EXIST ANY MORE...

PARKER--!

HUM?

YOU COME LATE TO A MEETING ONE MORE TIME --AND I'M GONNA BOOT YOU BACK TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY CLASS!

BUT--!

...DOES HE?

...I AM NOT A NERD. I AM NOT A NERD! I AM NOT A NERD!

I'M A GROWN MAN. A RESPONSIBLE ADULT. I'VE GOT A BEAUTIFUL WIFE. I CAN BEND STEEL IN MY BARE HANDS. LEAP OVER DOCTOR OCTOPUS IN A SINGLE BOUND.

I AM NOT A NERD!

GEEZ! WEB-SWINGING AROUND TOWN FOR NEARLY AN HOUR -- AND THIS IS STILL GNAWING AT MY GUT LIKE-

HELP! HELP! THAT LITTLE MAN STOLE MY PURSE!

A PURSE-SNATCHING? OKAY, SO IT'S NOT A THREAT OF COSMIC MAGNITUDE...

...BUT I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING TO RESTORE MY SELF-ESTEEM!

SNATCHING LITTLE OLD LADIES' PURSES? TSK-TSK-TSK! HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?

YOU?!?!

WHAT THE #&@% DO YOU *WANT* FROM ME?!

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW I'M *INVULNERABLE* TO PURSES! THEY BOUNCE RIGHT *OFF* ME!

STOP WITH THE *JOKES!* IT'S NOT *FUNNY!*

EVERY-ONE'S A *CRITIC!*

YOU'RE NOT DOIN' IT T'ME *AGAIN*, Y'HEAR? I'VE GOT A *GUN*-- AND I'LL *USE* IT!

SO... *USE* IT!

I'M NOT *KIDDING!* I'M *TOUGH!* A HARDENED *CRIMINAL!*

HUMAN LIFE MEANS *NOTHING* TO ME!

WHAT ARE YOU *WAITING* FOR--?

SHOOT ALREADY!

KLIK KLIK KLIK

WHAM

WHOOPEE. I PUNCHED OUT A PURSE-SNATCHER. A HARMLESS ONE AT THAT. SOME EGO-GRATIFICATION.

GUY DIDN'T GIVE MY DANGER-SENSE SO MUCH AS A TINGLE. I KNEW THE GUN HAD TO BE EMPTY.

WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE HE'S DOCTOR DOOM --DISGUISED AS A PURSE-SNATCHER.

AH... WHO AM I KIDDING--HE'S NOT DOCTOR DOOM. HE'S NOT ANYBODY!

I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS SHMOE BE-FORE IN MY LIFE!

RRRING

RRRING

AKKK!

SEVEN-THIRTY? IN THE MORNING?

WHOEVER IT IS, GO AWAY, LEAVE ME ALONE, LET ME SLEE--

OH. AUNT MAY. I DIDN'T REALIZE--

WHAT? OF COURSE I'M OKAY. JUST BECAUSE MARY JANE'S AWAY FOR A WEEK SHOOTING A COMMERCIAL DOESN'T MEAN--

PETER, YOU HAD ME SO WORRIED. I WAS CALLING AND CALLING TILL ONE A.M.--

-- STARTED GETTING THAT NERVOUS RASH OF MINE--

-- WHERE ON EARTH WERE YOU?

A FRAGILE BOY LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T BE GALLIVANTING AROUND TILL ALL--

...I...

AH... SORRY, AUNT MAY. DIDN'T MEAN TO SNAP AT YOU LIKE THAT. YOU KNOW HOW CRANKY I GET WHEN I HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH SLEEP.

WHAT? SURE I'LL COME BY FOR DINNER TONIGHT, HMMM? OF COURSE, AUNT MAY--

--I'LL WEAR MY WARM COAT.

I AM NOT A "FRAGILE BOY"!

I DON'T CATCH COLD EASILY!

SOMETIMES I PURPOSELY SIT IN DRAFTY ROOMS--WITH THE WINDOWS WIDE OPEN!

AKKK

I'D SHOOT MYSELF...

...BUT I'D PROBABLY BOTCH THAT, TOO!

ALL THOSE HOURS ON THE BUS... HEAD POUNDING... SICK TO MY STOMACH... NO SLEEP...

...BUT IT'LL ALL BE WORTH IT-- IF I CAN PULL THIS OFF.

PART OF ME THINKS IT'S JUST CRAZY. THINKS I'M CRAZY.

BUT I CAN'T LISTEN TO THAT SCARED, SMALL, STUTTERING MAMA'S BOY ANY MORE!

HEY... PAL--

--SPARE SOME CHANGE?

NO.

HAVE A HEART, PAL. I'M A *VET*, Y'KNOW-- FOUGHT IN WORLD WAR... UH.. KOR... I MEAN, AH... *NAM*, YEAH!

CAN'T LET LITTLE MAXWELL RUIN MY LAST CHANCE...

FOUGHT IN *VIET NAM!*

...TO BE BIG AGAIN.

LOOK, BUDDY-- I DON'T LIKE THIS ANY MORE 'N' YOU DO! BUT A GUY'S GOTTA EAT, Y'KNOW.

THAT'S IT. THAT'S MY HOPE. THAT'S MY...

HEY... BUDDY!

...DESTINY.

LEAVE ME

ALONE!!

KRA KOOM!

WHAT WAS THAT? A GUN? DID HE SHOOT ME? DON'T FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN SHOT, NOT BLEEDING OR ANYTHING.

I...I WASN'T THINKING! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

AH... CHARLIE: SERVES YOU RIGHT. PANHANDLING, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! HOW DEMEANING!

WELL, AT LEAST IT KEEPS ME AWAY FROM SPIDER-MAN! CAN'T BELIEVE HE WEBBED ME UP AND LEFT ME THERE FOR THE COPS... AND THEY NEVER SHOWED!

HUNG THERE LIKE A BAG O' LAUNDRY TILL THE STUFF DISSOLVED! MADE ME FEEL LIKE I--

--I...

HEYYY--

--I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

IF THIS WORKS, NOBODY'LL EVER FORGET ME.

THEY'LL TALK ABOUT ME... WHAT I DID... FOR YEARS AND YEARS.

THEY'LL SAY, "HEY--THAT DILLON... HE WAS SOMETHING, HUH?

"TAKES A REALLY BIG MAN T'PULL OFF A STUNT LIKE THAT."

YEAH, NO ONE'S GOING TO LOOK THROUGH ME... OR DOWN ON ME... AGAIN. THEY'LL ALL BE LOOKING...

...UP!

THIS IS WHAT MY *WHOLE LIFE* HAS BEEN LEADING UP TO! *MY WHOLE LIFE!*

SHRAAAK-KOOM!

TOP OF NEW YORK

AND I'M *READY!* YOU *HEAR* ME, WORLD?!

ELECTRO'S GONNA *LIGHT THE NIGHT!!*

NEXT: A CITY IN CHAOS!